

Electoral College

When voters cast their vote for president and vice president, they are actually casting a vote for the slate of electors who has pledged their support for that same candidate. The Electoral College is a body of electors who meet every presidential election to elect the next president and vice president of the United States.

Each State is allocated a number of electors equal to the number of its U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives. Hawaii has four (4) electoral votes out of the 538 electors nationwide.

The Electoral College will be held on **December 14, 2020, 2:00pm**.

Selection of Electors

Qualified political parties and parties or groups that complied with the presidential petition requirements of HRS §11-113 shall submit to the chief election officer its electors and alternates, after holding a state party or group convention pursuant to the constitution, bylaws, and rules of the party or group.

Members of Congress and employees of the federal government are prohibited from serving as an elector in order to maintain the balance between the legislative and executive branches of the federal government.

General Election Ballot

In Hawaii, the names of the candidates for president and vice president is used on the ballot in place of the elector's names. The votes cast for president and vice president determine which electors meet for the Electoral College.

Election of President and Vice President

The chosen electors gathers at the Electoral College in their respective states to cast their votes for president and vice president.

The votes cast at the Electoral College are sent to the President of the Senate who reads them before a joint session of Congress on January 6th following the general election. The presidential ticket with the

majority of votes is declared president and vice president.

If no candidate receives a majority of electoral votes (i.e. 270 out of 538), the U.S. House of Representatives elects the president from the three (3) presidential candidates who received the most electoral votes. Each state delegation has one (1) vote. The U.S. Senate elects the vice president from the two (2) vice president candidates with the most electoral votes. Each U.S. Senator casts one (1) vote for vice president. If the U.S. House of Representatives fails to elect a president by Inauguration Day, the vice president elect serves as acting president until the deadlock is resolved in the U.S. House of Representatives.

For complete information, please refer to the National Archives and Records Administration website; U.S. Constitution, Article II; and HRS §11-113 and Chapter 14.

This FACTSHEET is intended for informational purposes only and should not be used as an authority on Hawaii election law. Requirements and/or deadlines may change. Consult the Hawaii Revised Statutes and other sources for more detailed requirements.

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